

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-23 remain pending and have been found allowable.

The drawings were objected to as containing extraneous markings from a photocopy machine. It is respectfully submitted that the substitute set of drawings is devoid of such extraneous markings.

Formal drawings are resubmitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.173.

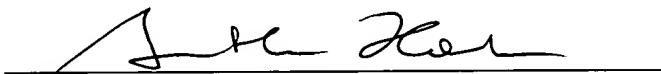
Claims 1 and 3-23 were rejected as being based upon a defective reissue declaration. A supplemental declaration under 37CFR1.175(b)(1) incorporating acceptable language proposed by the Examiner is being submitted herewith.

The amendments filed 1/22/04, 8/20/03 and 7/15/03 proposed amendments to the claims that do not comply with 37CFR1.173(b). It is respectfully submitted that the supplemental paper submitted herewith amending the reissue application presents such amendments in the format exemplified in MPEP 1453.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicants earnestly believe the application to now be in condition of allowance and respectfully request that it be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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